

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Title as follows.

-- METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING A DEFECT IN THE ANNULUS FIBROSIS
~~DISC HERNIATION AND PREVENTING THE EXTRUSION OF INTERBODY BONE GRAFT--~~

Please amend the paragraph added at page 1, line 2 in the preliminary amendment filed on July 30, 2003, as follows.

-- This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/638,241, filed August 14, 2000, which claims priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/148,913, filed August 13, 1999. U.S. Application Serial No. 09/638,241 ~~claims domestic priority from~~ is also a continuation-in-part of International Patent Application No. PCT/US00/14708, filed May 30, 2000, which ~~claims priority from~~ is a continuation-in-part of and claims the benefit under 35 USC §119 of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/322,516, filed May 28, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,245,107. This application is also a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. ~~10/120,763, filed April 11, 2002, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial Nos. 09/807,820, filed April 19, 2001, which is a 371 filing of PCT/US00/14708, filed May 30, 2000; and 09/638,241, filed August 14, 2000; and 09/454,908, filed December 3, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,491,724; and 09/639,309, filed August 14, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,419,702; and 09/690,536, filed October 16, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,371,990, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial Nos. 09/638,726, filed August 14, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,340,639; and 09/415,382, filed October 8, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,419,704.~~ The entire content of each application and patent is incorporated herein by reference. --